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## LAST DOUBT REMOVED

Certainty of Cervera's Fleet in Santiago Harbor Established.

## OBSERVATIONS OF LIEUTENANT BLUE

Admiral Sampson Reports to the Navy Department.

## BARBAROUS MUTILATION

Camp Alger is to be reduced in size by the removal of some of the troops to other points in the south.

The last doubt as to the presence of Cervera's fleet in Santiago harbor has been removed.

Word came this morning from Commander Leary at Provincetown, Mass., that the San Francisco, his flagship, has suffered no damages through grounding yesterday.

Official information has reached Washington to the effect that the fleet of transports with troops for Santiago, which was supposed to have left yesterday for Cuba, had not sailed up to an early hour this morning.

Dispatches from West Indian points say the Spanish assail the force of marines at Caimenera almost every day, but the warships shell them away.

Cruiser Montgomery fired several shells at a Santa Clara battery without effect.

The following report from Admiral Sampson was posted at the Navy Department this morning:

MOLE ST. NICHOLAS, Haiti, June 13, 1898.

Lieut. Blue just returned after several statute miles to observe in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba. He reports the Spanish fleet all there.

Spaniards attacked vigorously camp at Guantanamo. Outpost of four marines were killed and their bodies mutilated barbarously. Surgeon Gibbs killed.

SAMPSON.

## Last Doubt Dispelled.

The last lingering doubt that may have existed as to the presence of Cervera's fleet in its entirety in Santiago harbor was removed when Admiral Sampson's dispatch reached the Navy Department last night. Up to that time information as to the number and character of the vessels lying in the harbor, obtained from observation in great part by the hills at the entrance, had been obtained through Cuban sources supplemented by such glimpses as could be obtained by naval officers from the outside entrance. Now, however, according to Lieut. Blue, the ships have been actually seen by an American officer, counted and inspected from such points of vantage as were afforded by the high hills surrounding the harbor. The officials here are full of praise for Lieut. Blue's achievement.

Victor Blue has long been known in the navy as an enterprising and daring young officer, but it required a good deal of sustained courage for him to go ashore in this reconnaissance. He was in a most secure position, law nothing more nor less than a spy, and took his life in hand in making the trip, for had he been captured by the Spaniards he would have been tried by drum-head court-martial and executed.

## Attack on the Marines.

Considering the fact that the fight of the marines at Guantanamo last Saturday night was really the first engagement of the war on shore, Admiral Sampson's reference to the affair in his dispatch posted this morning was remarkably brief. Hence it is inferred that perhaps too much importance has been attached to it by the public. The action of Lieut. Col. Huntington in removing his men to a more secure point than the exposed position occupied by them on Crest Heights is taken here as an indication that no offensive movement is to be attempted by the marine corps, but that it will limit its operations to the defense of a small point on Guantanamo harbor, to protect the coaling of our warships and perhaps to serve as a cable station, when the necessary operators and instruments are secured from Cape Haitien, to enable Sampson to reopen the cut cable. It does not follow by any means that the place seized and held by the marines on Guantanamo bay is to be used as the point of embarkation of the United States regular troops now on their way to Cuba. On the contrary, there is the best reason to believe that another point very much better adapted for a landing has been selected. But this point also is believed to be much healthier than any point on the shores of Guantanamo bay, where yellow fever is said to be endemic all the year round.

## Barbarous Mutilation.

The officials here were very reluctant to believe that the Spanish who fought the marines at Crest Heights had been guilty of the horrible barbarism of mutilating the bodies of soldiers. The first press reports were by some of the officers supposed to be based upon the horrible wounds inflicted under certain conditions of range by the steel-clad bullet of the Mauser rifles. Admiral Sampson's report, however, seems to remove all doubt on that point, for his surgeons would undoubtedly be able to distinguish at once between the effects of a bullet and of a machete.

## Monadnock to Sail Tomorrow.

MARE ISLAND NAVY YARD, Cal., June 14.—The monitor Monadnock and the collier Nero will probably leave here on Wednesday in time to accompany the second expedition to the Philippines. All the work necessary to be done on the Monadnock will be completed today, and the Nero will be out of dry dock tonight. She will have to coal at San Francisco, but arrangements have been made to expedite her loading, and there will be little delay on this account.

No. 14,130.

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 1898—FOURTEEN PAGES.

TWO CENTS.

## BACK TO WALL TENTS

District Men Glad to Get Out of Dog Tents.

## WILL MOVE CAMP AGAIN SOON

The Men Are Now Satisfied With the Food They Get.

## RAINY SEASON NOW ON

Special From a Staff Correspondent.

TAMPA, Fla., June 14.—Last night for the first time since the District Volunteers left Camp Thomas at Chickamauga Park they slept under their regular wall tents. When the regiment arrived at Tampa they erected the dog tents for temporary use. Daily they expected to change them for the more comfortable wall tents. The order to change came yesterday afternoon, and in a very short while every tent was in the proper position.

Lieut. Smith of Company H laid off the camp, and it is a model one. Instead of having the company tents laid off in two lines, only one line is used on account of lack of space.

All this work, it is believed, will count for naught. It is more than probable that tomorrow the camp on Tampa bay will be broken and a new site on Tampa Heights chosen. While the site now used is a splendid one and affords excellent bathing facilities and is convenient to Tampa, there is absolutely no drill grounds. In consequence it has been impossible to have regimental drills or battalion drills; in fact, the companies cannot be drilled in the foot movement, but have to confine themselves to the manual of arms. The men do not like the idea of making a change.

## To Locate a New Camp.

Gen. Carpenter, accompanied by Major O'Brien of the 5th Battalion, went out this morning to locate the new camp.

Rumor has it that the District boys will be equipped with the new canvas uniforms before the end of the week. The boys will be very glad to get them.

There is absolutely no fault-finding among the men now in regard to the rations. Most of the companies have contributed to a company fund with which they buy extras. Then, too, they sell lemonade, which gives them additional money. Col. Harries requires a copy of the menu for each meal, and some of them are excellent. If one imagines that the boys are not healthy he has only to look at the sick report for this morning. Out of nearly one thousand men only sixteen showed up on the sick list. Most of these are cases of sunburned arms. There are only four men confined in the hospital with malaria. Dr. Weaver, assistant surgeon, and Steward Wolbridge have been assigned to the division hospital as attendants.

Capt. Simms and Lieut. Crouly are still detailed on General Carpenter's staff. Lieut. Boisseau has been detailed to assist Col. Black, formerly Engineer Commissioner of the District of Columbia.

## Detail for Gen. Miles.

General Miles has sent to the regiment several times for privates to be detailed as stenographers. Captain Looker will go to Port Tampa to be instructed in engineering. Probably the other companies will be given the same instructions in a few days. In accordance with an order from regimental headquarters the following promotions and reductions have been made: Sergeant Taft of Company F, reduced to private for absence without leave. Quartermaster Sergeant John G. Holstein of Company F, made lieut. sergeant. Private Geo. C. Meigs of Company F has been made artificer of Company F. Corporal Perry of Company B has been reduced to private. The regiment is still without a lieutenant colonel and an adjutant. It is understood that the brigade sergeant major, Meyers of Washington, will be made the adjutant general and Captain Theo. Mosher the lieutenant colonel. Quartermaster Field and his mules are getting along nicely together now. The heart of the chaplain was made glad this morning by the arrival of his wife. Mrs. Dudley will stop at a boarding house in Tampa. There is not a more popular man in the regiment than the chaplain. Every man, regardless of creed, loves him, and the officers think he is the finest on earth.

Lieut. Walker of Company I has been made happy by the receipt of a new uniform, Colt gun and holster from his fellow employees in the stamp department of the post office.

Capt. Otto G. Simonson of Company F has been quite unwell for several days past. The climate does not appear to agree with him.

## Rainy Season Open Now.

The rainy season has set in, and every afternoon it rains hard, but in their tents it does not affect the boys, but when they had their dog tents they were wet through to the skin.

Mail for the boys should be directed to Tampa, in care of the regiment. For some days the mail has been very irregular, and yesterday, through a mistake, it was sent through to Port Tampa. The censor is still very strict, and will not allow anything in regard to the movement of the transports to go through.

Major R. A. Pyles was today appointed brigade surgeon. He will make his headquarters with the District regiment. This will probably make a vacancy in the regiment, and Assistant Surgeon S. Clifford Cox will be made major surgeon. Capt. Douglas Simms has been appointed brigade quartermaster, and Lieut. Donnelly brigade ordnance officer. The appointments are highly complimentary to the ability of the Washington contingent. This leaves two more vacancies in the regiment, but no one has as yet been suggested to fill them.

## CASTELLANE IN A DUEL.

Anna Gould's Husband Fights With M. Henri Turot.

PARIS, June 14.—Count Boniface de Castellane, who married Miss Anna Gould of New York, fought a duel this morning with M. Henri Turot of the Petite Republique Francaise. Three rounds were fought with swords, and M. Turot was wounded in each round, twice slightly and the third time severely in the right forearm, thus ending the duel.

The dispute which led to the meeting grew out of M. Turot's comments upon an act of infanticide committed by a servant in the count's household.



"WE'RE IN THIS, TOO."

## PORTABLE BREASTWORKS

Machines Constructed for Use of Army in Raiding Rifle Pits.

Woodwork Supplied by a Washington Firm, the Steel Shield by New Jersey Foundry.

Two hundred portable protective shields for use in the invading army of the United States in Cuba for raiding rifle pits have been manufactured in this city at the wood working mills of Belt & Dyer, 13th and C streets northwest, and will be shipped probably tomorrow to Tampa, Fla., where the headquarters of the army are now located. The "portable breastworks," as the affairs are dubbed by the workmen engaged on them, consist of two large wooden wheels at either end of a wooden axle about seven feet long. To this axle is attached a twenty-foot ladder, the ladder being fastened about eighteen inches from one of its ends. The ladder is used as a lever for the shield, which is fastened to the short protruding end, while the longer portion of the climbing apparatus is used as the means of pushing the affair along. With the steel plate in front of them, proof against all infantry bullets, it is believed that a small detachment of soldiers will be enabled to take a rifle pit filled with men. The shields are very simple in design and are to be used. Once adjusted to the pit or works the ladder is let go. The shield swings down in a vertical position between the wheels and beneath the axle, while the ladder is brought to a perpendicular position. It may now be used for scaling purposes.

## To Be Shipped in Sections.

All the wood work for the protectors has been made by Belt & Dyer, but the steel is the product of a New Jersey foundry. They will be shipped to Tampa in pieces to be assembled either there or somewhere with the invading army on Cuban or Porto Rican soil. The shields are very simple, indeed, and were made comparatively rough in order that the plans may be followed and new shields constructed by soldiers in the field.

The wooden wheels, made of seven layers of plank, are 4 feet 6 inches in diameter, the rims being six inches wide and eight inches deep. Four axles of right angles take the place of spokes. The wheels are made wide and light, in order that they may be easily pushed through the soft earth and sand. The axle is about six inches in diameter, and is turned of hard wood.

## Made of Oiled Wood.

The ladder levers are well-made affairs of oiled wood, with round rungs. Pushing from between these rungs the soldiers will be safely protected from any infantry fire from the front, the shield at the other end of the ladder being 50 feet in size. The shield is constructed of two plates of heavy steel, one-eight of an inch in thickness, bolted on either side of hard wood. The shields are very simple in design, and have been tested and found to be absolutely bullet proof, although a small machine gun would doubtless play havoc with them in the field.

One of the steel shields has been shipped to Washington, and an entire portable protector, which has something the appearance of a construction of the battering ram of olden days, has been set up, to be inspected by the army authorities sometime this afternoon or tomorrow. The order for the machines was given some ten days ago, and they were all completed within the specified time. The shields will be shipped directly from the New Jersey foundry, while the wood portion will go through from this city.

## Sensor Aldrich Re-Elected.

NEWPORT, R. I., June 14.—United States Senator Aldrich was re-elected by the legislature today on a first ballot. Vote is as follows: Senate—Aldrich, 35; Andrews, 1. House—Aldrich, 61; Andrews, 2; Garvin, 1.

## BAIT FOR OUR SHIPS

Spaniards Repeat Their Old Ruses at Havana.

Try to Lure Our Cruisers Within Range of the Heavy Guns on Shore.

KEY WEST, Fla., June 14.—Captain General Blanco has apparently not yet abandoned the hope of luring the American warships within range of the Havana batteries. He tried it again on Friday morning last, but with no better success than in his previous attempts.

Advices received here today are to the effect that five Spanish ships ran out to the mouth of Havana harbor on the day mentioned and headed in an easterly direction. The vessels of the blockading squadron were lying well off shore, the nearest not being closer than 2,000 yards. Upon sighting the Spaniards they ran in a short distance and opened fire on them.

The volley of shot and shell brought no response from the enemy, but the quiet of ships speedily turned and, hugging the shore, under the batteries, ran back into the harbor. The American ships, however, did not accept the bait and made no further attempt to molest them. The character of the Spanish boats could not be positively fixed on account of the distance; but the American officers who participated in the affair say one or two were small gunboats of the class which has been made famous all along the north coast in futile efforts to draw the American ships within the fire of the Spanish batteries.

Yesterday afternoon three of the Havana batteries, the Santa Clara battery and sand batteries No. 1 and No. 2, deliberately opened fire upon one of the auxiliary gunboats which was cruising closely along the shore.

About a half dozen shots were fired, none finding any other mark than the sea, although several dropped too close for comfort. The gunboat made no reply, but hurried out of range and reported the attack to the flagship of the blockading squadron. No attempt at retaliation, however, was made.

## PASSED WITHOUT AMENDMENT.

Senate's Action on the East Washington Heights Railway Bill.

The Senate passed today, without amendment, House bill 10233, to incorporate the East Washington Heights Traction Railroad Company.

The route authorized by this bill for a railroad is from the western approach of the Pennsylvania Avenue bridge; thence across the Anacostia river on a bridge or trestle, to be built by the company; thence along Pennsylvania Avenue extended to Branch Avenue; thence along Branch Avenue to the Bowen road or Albany street; thence along the Bowen road or Albany street to the settlement known as Good Hope; also from the intersection of Branch Avenue and the Bowen road to the District line, by a route to be approved by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia; also from the intersection of Minnesota Avenue with Pennsylvania Avenue extended along Minnesota Avenue to Harrison street; also from the intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue extended and 28th street northward to the Anacostia road; thence along said Anacostia road to a point to be fixed by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia opposite the settlement known as East Washington Park.

This bill only requires the signature of the President to become effective as a law.

## WILL BE HARD TO CAPTURE

Spanish Opinion Regarding the Reduction of Santiago.

It is Predicted That Many Troops Will Succumb to Fever and Other Diseases.

LONDON, June 14.—The Madrid correspondent of the Times says:

"The opinion here is that a land attack upon Santiago de Cuba will prove a much harder operation than is commonly supposed. The country to be traversed presents great natural difficulties. To arrive at Santiago an expedition must cross the range of mountains called Sierra Cobro, in range of mountains called Sierra Cobro, in which there are many positions easily defended by comparatively small forces, especially against an enemy which is sure to be decimated and demoralized by yellow fever and dysentery, for this district at all times is the most unhealthy in the island.

The rainy season has now begun. Doubtless the Americans will have the assistance of the insurgents, who are thoroughly acquainted with the topography of the district and are well seasoned against disease but in the past history of the insurrection the rebels have never had much success in attacking fortified positions. At the same time it must be remembered that a considerable number of Spanish troops are available for defense.

"A list is published in several Madrid newspapers showing that in the province of Santiago, including Holguin and Manzanillo, there are no less than thirty battalions of infantry, seven squadrons of cavalry, five companies of sappers, four mountain batteries and four companies of garrison artillery.

"The prospect of a conjoint bombardment by the American squadron does not excite serious apprehension in the minds of the Spanish military authorities. For the moment, however, the Cuban question is rather in the background, owing to the hot discussion everywhere of Philippine affairs. The papers are publishing curious documents relating to the transactions for the surrender of Aguinaldo before the war. I refrain from commenting upon them until I can satisfy myself that they are authentic."

## NO NEW CASES AT McHENRY.

Effectual Vigilance on the Part of the Authorities.

Official dispatches received by the marine hospital service today regarding the yellow fever situation indicate effectual vigilance on the part of the authorities at McHenry, Miss. There are no new cases at McHenry, and the number of foci of fever has been reduced there from eight to six. This means that instead of additional places being found infected two of the danger points now can be counted out of the situation. State Health Officer Harrison is in charge of the town, and Surgeon Murray is looking out for the federal regulations. Surgeon Carter of the marine hospital service is investigating the neighboring towns and houses along the railroad lines, and so far has developed no new cases nor foci. That examination, however, is not completed. The marine hospital states that a census of the town of McHenry shows 323 whites and 67 colored people there.

## W. R. Foster in Paris.

LONDON, June 14.—A special dispatch from Paris says William R. Foster, formerly counsel to the Gratiuity Fund of the New York Produce Exchange, who was extradited recently from Europe on the charge of embezzling \$100,000 entrusted to his care, and who was released on \$20,000 bail in New York city, arrived at Paris yesterday.

## NO INTERVENTION

Rumors of Foreign Activity Excite No Special Interest.

## WE WILL DICTATE TERMS OF PEACE

Popular Sentiment in Favor of Expansion Growing.

## CHANGING PARTY LINES

The frequent repetition of foreign intervention rumors excites no interest in official and congressional circles at Washington. These stories are regarded as silly. It has been too frequently reiterated to require any further statement on the subject that foreign intervention between Spain and the United States will not be recognized by this government, and that the administration is not open to suggestions of terms of peace. When Spain sues for peace this government will suggest the terms. Though Spain has experienced nothing but disaster since the war began and is every hour threatened with greater disaster, she has given no indication of a readiness at this time to yield to the inevitable. The suggestion, coming from Madrid dispatches, that Spain is ready to accept peace proposals which do not emanate from the enemy is read with amusement. The government is not soliciting the good offices of any foreign power to induce Spain to sue for peace. A proposition for peace will have to come from Madrid, and the terms upon which peace will be granted must be fixed by this government, without interference or suggestion from any foreign source. A few persons only regard it as probable that after the fall of Santiago and Porto Rico Spain will sue for peace.

## The General Opinion.

The general opinion in official and political circles is that the stubbornness of Spain will not be overcome until after the fall of Havana. If after Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines are in the possession of the United States Spain continues to keep up the pretense of war, this government is prepared to force peace upon her by operations against the ports of Spain. It is thought to be hardly likely that Spain will carry her folly so far as to render this necessary, but she will have to recognize the permanent loss of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines before peace can be concluded. There has been a very decided development in Congress in favor of the policy of the administration to retain possession of Porto Rico and the Philippines. The efforts of some of the democratic leaders to commit the minority party in Congress in opposition to a policy of extension have been developed, and affairs not before understood. The republicans in Congress have become almost a unit in favor of the policy of extension, and the sentiment in favor of such policy is growing rapidly among democrats. It is discovered that the attempt to commit the democratic party to the opposition is meeting with determined resistance, and that the number of democrats who favor the retention of the Philippines and Porto Rico and the annexation of Hawaii is increasing.

Vigorous protests are being made against unwise leadership, which would commit the minority party to a disastrous policy of stagnation. It is expected that there will be a vigorous contest at the democratic caucus to be held this evening, and that the purpose of the caucus, which is to elect the majority of the caucus, will be to elect a man who will be able to carry out the policy of extension, and that the caucus action will be ignored by many, and there will be a serious division in the party ranks.

## Popular Sentiment Favors Expansion

The correspondence of members of the House of all parties who have been in communication with their friends at home with a view to securing renomination indicates an immense popular sentiment in favor of a policy which will expand the influence of this country, and favor the acquisition of this territory, as is essential to an expansion of our commerce and influence. It is thought by many that this is not merely a temporary popular outburst, but is based on the deliberate conclusion that the close of this war cannot find us in exactly the condition we were in at its outbreak, and that the time has come when existing conditions must regulate our conduct as a nation without too much regard for traditions. Some of the strongest men in the minority party contemplate with great apprehension the efforts to commit that party to a policy of opposition, and it is generally conceded that the demand for the retention of territory acquired by this war will be irresistible. There is no longer the least doubt expressed that the administration is thoroughly in sympathy with the popular sentiment on this subject, and that the President will have the support of a large policy. Party lines are so far as the policy of expansion being supported by some of the strongest men of all parties, and a small minority of the republicans slowing any disposition to oppose it.

## WORDEN'S SENTENCE COMMUTED.

California Train Wrecker Will Be Given a Life Sentence.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., June 14.—The death sentence of Walter D. Worden will be commuted to life imprisonment by the governor. Worden is the man who during the great railroad strike of 1894 helped to wreck a Southern Pacific train near Sacramento, killing an engineer and three soldiers. The case became of national prominence through the efforts of the big labor organizations to save Worden, and the fact that Grover Cleveland, then President, wrote a personal letter to Governor Budd asking him to save Worden's neck. It was claimed that there was insanity in Worden's family, and that his mind was not right. Dr. Gardiner was sent east to investigate this phase of the case, and it is understood that it is upon his report that the governor will take the action indicated.

## TROOPS TO BE SENT AWAY.

The Size of Camp Alger to Be Reduced.

It is stated Camp Alger, near Falls Church, Va., and the camp at Tampa, Fla., are to be reduced by the removal of some of the troops to other points in the south. The policy of the War Department is in favor of the establishment of many small camps, instead of a few large ones.

## THE STAR BY MAIL.

Persons leaving the city for any period can have The Star mailed to them to any address in the United States or Canada, by ordering it at this office, in person or by letter. Terms: 12 cents per week; 25 cents for two weeks, or 50 cents per month. Invariably in advance. Subscribers changing their address from one Post-office to another should give the last address as well as the new one.

## DELAY IN THE START

Last Transports Did Not Leave Until This Morning.

## SHOULD REACH SANTIAGO FRIDAY

Preparing for the Departure of the Second Expedition.

## CONDITION OF THE TROOPS

The army of invasion under General Shafter was several hours out from Florida at noon today. As announced from authoritative sources, the start was made yesterday, and while the appointed time had been at daybreak, it has since developed from official information that the last fleet of transports and convoys did not actually get away until late last night or early this morning. The time was employed in the last hurried preparations for maneuvering the marine procession into its double column formation and getting it into motion as an entirety. The scenes enacted are likely to be laid before the public in full detail within the next few hours, as the authorities here have determined to withdraw the censorship thus far enforced from Florida points twenty-four hours after the actual time of departure.

## The Second Invasion.

With the first expedition actually out of the country, the authorities here have quickly turned their attention to another expedition even more important than this initial one. It is expected that the plans for this second invading force will be matured at once, and that as a result another expedition will leave from an Atlantic coast point within the next ten days, this time for Porto Rico. That Porto Rico is to figure in the first military operations is regarded as settled, and the details for this movement are fast approaching completion. There are about fifteen transports already available. Three more were added to the list yesterday, and the list will be increased as rapidly as possible. Some of these may be used for a later expedition, but those on hand and to be secured will readily accommodate a force of 10,000 men, if the authorities consider it necessary to send an army of invasion of that size to Porto Rico. Recent reports from that point have indicated that the Spanish force did not exceed 4,000 or 5,000 men, so that it may be deemed unnecessary to send a large army of occupation. Such as it is, however, it will have an important mission to perform, and with this force pursuing an aggressive campaign in Porto Rico, and General Shafter's 15,000 men on Cuban soil, an advance of stirring action is assured from this time forward.

## Suitable Point of Embarkation.

The board appointed by Secretary Alger to select a suitable embarkation point on the Atlantic gulf coast, with a view of establishing a point of embarkation for future expeditions, returned today, and immediately set about the preparation of its report. Major Hopkins, confidential aide of Secretary Alger, has the matter in hand, and it is probable that the report will be ready tomorrow. The board consists of Col. Charles H. Davis, of Charleston, S. C., Major General F. V. Coville, of Jacksonville, Fla., and Major General J. B. Magruder, of Jacksonville, Fla.

It was a rush hour throughout. Traveling by night and inspecting by day, the board made its rounds in eight days. The report will not recommend specifically any one city, but will set forth the advantages and disadvantages of each in the matter of railroad facilities, drinking water, food, sanitation, etc. While no point will be recommended, it is said that the report will make clear the obvious advantage of one or more of the cities, so that Secretary Alger readily can make a selection. The depth of water in the harbors is felt to be a very essential point, for the transports as well as the convoys will have difficulty in threading narrow channels, tortuous and shallow harbors leading to the points of inspection.

Jacksonville is well thought of, but the depth of water at the entrance of St. John's river, which is not much more than fifteen feet between the jetties, is something of a drawback. At Fernandina there is fifteen feet at the entrance, deepening to three and one-quarter fathoms further up the channel. Savannah has from eighteen to twenty feet, and Charleston about twenty-one feet at mean low water. The members of the board will give no intimation as to the point they regard most desirable.

## Condition of the Troops.

When once the camp grounds are designated there will be speedy action in getting the troops to that central point. The work thus far done in equipping the first Cuban army has gone far beyond the preparation of the forces still remaining in Florida, so that there will not be the delay attending the first departure. Major Hopkins said today that the board had an opportunity to see some of the troops gathered at Jacksonville, and said they presented a fine, soldierly appearance. There were evidences that the work of equipping was proceeding rapidly and successfully. The board's report will be centered at this point. Members of the board saw Major General Fitzhugh Lee, who is at Jacksonville, with eight regiments, constituting the 7th Army Corps.

## Feeding the Army in Cuba.

The subsistence of the army in Cuba is a subject to which the commissary department will devote much of its energies from this time forward. The initiative step in this direction was taken more than a week since, when Gen. Egan invited bids for supplying the troops at the various seacoast points in Cuba which may be occupied by them with refrigerated beef and also beef on the block. The question of meat subsistence probably will give the commissary department more difficulty than any other, because of the fact that, unlike other supplies, it is impracticable to keep killed beef and cattle for any length of time in tropical climates like Cuba and Porto Rico. Consequently, in the advertisement issued by Gen. Egan, it was specified that in the case of refrigerated, chilled or frozen beef, it should be perfectly good and fit for use seventy-two hours after delivery—this provision being inserted so that the beef would last until a new supply arrives. Contractors had the privilege of constructing any refrigerating or chilling apparatus at points in Cuba once